Project BASIS

Brief Program Description

Project BASIS is designed to address problems that may be found in schools. BASIS most directly addresses the following components: (1) increasing the clarity of school rules and consistency of rule enforcement, (2) improving classroom organization and management, (3) increasing the frequency of school/parent communications regarding student behavior, and (4) replacing punitive disciplinary strategies with positive reinforcement of appropriate behavior.

School teams of administrators, teachers, and other school personnel are responsible for implementing the program. Researchers working with the schools provide quarterly feedback to the teams on the quality of program implementation and on changes in the behaviors targeted by the program.

Program Strategies

The BASIS components are addressed in a variety of ways. The BASIS program addresses the idea that school rules should be both clear and consistent, and advocates the adoption of a school-wide computerized behavior tracking system. The computer system will also facilitate the improvement of school/parent communication by generating letters regarding both positive and negative student behavior. Positive reinforcement strategies replace punitive disciplinary strategies school-wide. Teachers are trained in this new system and are also taught classroom organization and management.

Population Focus

The program was implemented in six middle schools.

Suitable Settings

The intervention is suitable for school-based settings.

Required Resources

None specified.

Implementation Timeline

None specified.

Outcomes

Major program outcomes included:

- Positive effects on the measures most directly targeted: classroom orderliness, classroom organization, classroom rule clarity, and student reports of rewards, and (fewer) punishments.
- Results also revealed increases in teacher support, student perceptions of the fairness of school rules, and teacher reports of student attention to academic work.
- Teacher ratings of student classroom disruption decreased significantly.

Contact Information

For indepth information on this program, please use the contact listed below.

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